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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

22 April 1959

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DAILY BRIEF

I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC

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*Tibet: Rebels in southeastern Tibet are being hard pressed by Communist forces using aircraft and artillery.

rebel forces consider most of the southeast area lost. A large group of armed Khamba tribesmen and other Tibetans are reported to be camped near the Indian border. They are short of food and ammunition and are said to be under constant Chinese Communist attack. They hope to obtain permission to proceed into India near the point where the Dalai Lama entered.)

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III. CONCLUSIONS OF SPECIAL USIB COMMITTEE ON BERLIN SITUATION

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The USIB has taken note of the following conclusions reached by its special committee on the Berlin situation. The committee pointed out that its conclusions were to be used in context with SNIE 100-2-59 (24 February 1959) and with the review of that estimate in SNIE 100-2/1-59 (17 March 1959):

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1. There are as yet no clear indications of specific Soviet tactics at Geneva, but there have been several recent indications that the USSR will be prepared to discuss some issues other than a German peace treaty and Berlin, particularly security and disengagement proposals.

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(3. The USSR will not turn over access controls to the GDR in the near future. However, the physical transfer of access controls could be accomplished with little or no advance warning)

(4. Indications of Soviet responses to possible Western actions in the event of turnover, harassment, or blockade remain consistent with the judgments stated in SNIE 100-2-59)

(6. There are no significant changes in the West Berlin situation.)

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LATE ITEM

*USSR: Moscow's note of 21 April to Bonn, charging that measures to equip West German forces with nuclear weapons are designed to confront forthcoming East-West negotiations with a fait accompli, is a further Soviet move to discredit the Adenauer government and set the stage for Soviet proposals for a nuclear-free zone in Europe in the talks. The warning that negotiations will be doomed to failure if Bonn persists in its rearmament program is another step in Moscow's effort to establish in advance the rationale and justification for unilateral actions regarding Berlin and a separate peace treaty with East Germany in the event the talks fail. By focusing attention on the controversial issue of arming West Germany with modern weapons, the Soviet leaders are seeking to sharpen differences among the Western allies on the eve of the foreign ministers' conference.

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